

Comprehensive Plan Community Engagement

Ward 1 Meeting Summary

Overview

On Wednesday, November 6, the Office of Planning (OP) hosted its second of eight community meetings planned for the fall of 2019, coordinated in partnership with LINK Strategic Partners (LINK). The purpose of this series of meetings is to present an update on the Draft Comprehensive Plan Update, including the major themes and any area elements specific to the meeting location. The meetings also intend to share an overview of the community engagement process to date and close the loop on feedback collected from District stakeholders thus far. The central question posed to attendees during the discussion period following an overview presentation is, “What would you like OP to share with your Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC)?”

Location and Attendance

The meeting took place at the Columbia Heights Education Campus, a public school located in the Columbia Heights neighborhood within Ward 1. The event was held in the cafeteria, and the large space provided for central theater-style seating surrounded by each of the five Gallery Walk stations. Representatives from the DC Census and the Department of Housing and Community Development were also tabling on site. Our sign-in sheet registered 39 attendees. Of those 39, 15 identified as residents of ANC 1A, four identified as residents of ANC 1B, two identified as residents of ANC 1C, four identified as residents of ANC 1D, one identified as a resident of Ward 1, and one identified as a resident of Ward 4. Other attendees did not identify their ANC or Ward of residence.

Run of Show

ANC 1A Chairperson Kent Boese provided greetings to attendees and demonstrated a depth of understanding of the Comprehensive Plan and commitment to facilitate feedback from constituents. LINK Managing Director Josh Lasky acknowledged representatives of the Executive Office of the Mayor, staff from offices of DC Councilmembers, and additional ANC Commissioners in attendance. Josh then introduced OP Deputy Director Anita Cozart, who presented a thorough update on the Comprehensive Plan. Following the presentation, Josh directed attendees to join OP and LINK staff for discussion at the Gallery Walk stations. OP Director Andrew Trueblood joined for the second half of the meeting and participated in the Gallery Walk, responding to questions from attendees alongside other OP staff.

Major Themes and Key Takeaways from Feedback

- Equity, housing, and transportation were major focal points for many attendees, and many attendees brought detailed questions within these areas.



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- Several attendees voiced their interest in increased density within neighborhoods of Ward 1.
- Many attendees had questions about the public review period and wanted clarity on how they could best provide feedback in the coming months.
- The area elements and maps (Generalized Policy Map and Future Land Use Map) seemed to attract the most attendees. A number of attendees, who included some amendment authors, were directed to the technical assistance station for more detailed and policy-specific discussions with OP's subject-matter experts.

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